



Drought Information Statement for MONTANA

Valid: June 2, 2026

Issued By: NWS Great Falls, NWS Missoula, NWS Glasgow, NWS Billings
Contact Information:

- This product will be updated, July 2026, or sooner, if drought conditions change, significantly.
 - Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
 - Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/TFX/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
-
- D3 - Extreme Drought Conditions Located Across Portions of
 - North Central Montana
 - Southwestern Montana
 - Eastern Montana





U.S. Drought Monitor

Link: [Latest Montana U.S. Drought Monitor](#)

U.S. Drought Monitor Montana

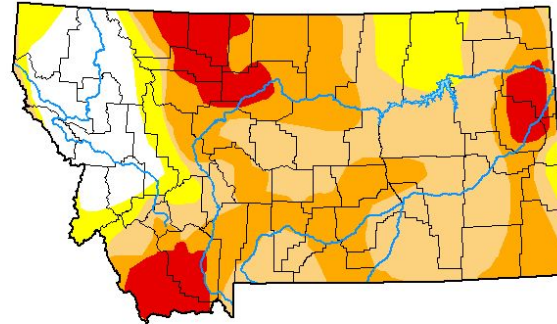
May 26, 2026

(Released Thursday, May 28, 2026)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Intensity and Extent

- **D4 (Exceptional Drought):** None
- **D3 (Extreme Drought):** Portions of north central, southwestern and eastern MT
- **D2 (Severe Drought):** Large portions of the state, East of The Continental Divide
- **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Most of the state of Montana, East of The Divide
- **D0: (Abnormally Dry):** Portions of western Montana, and all remaining areas of The Treasure State, East of The Divide



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	12.72	87.28	76.00	40.83	10.36	0.00
Last Week 05-19-2026	12.80	87.20	73.64	35.55	8.78	0.00
3 Months Ago 02-24-2026	9.95	90.05	56.14	17.78	4.17	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2025	48.61	51.39	19.79	8.08	1.46	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-30-2025	27.06	72.94	40.74	31.81	8.55	0.00
One Year Ago 05-27-2025	22.17	77.83	53.50	23.21	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought	D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

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NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC



droughtmonitor.unl.edu



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

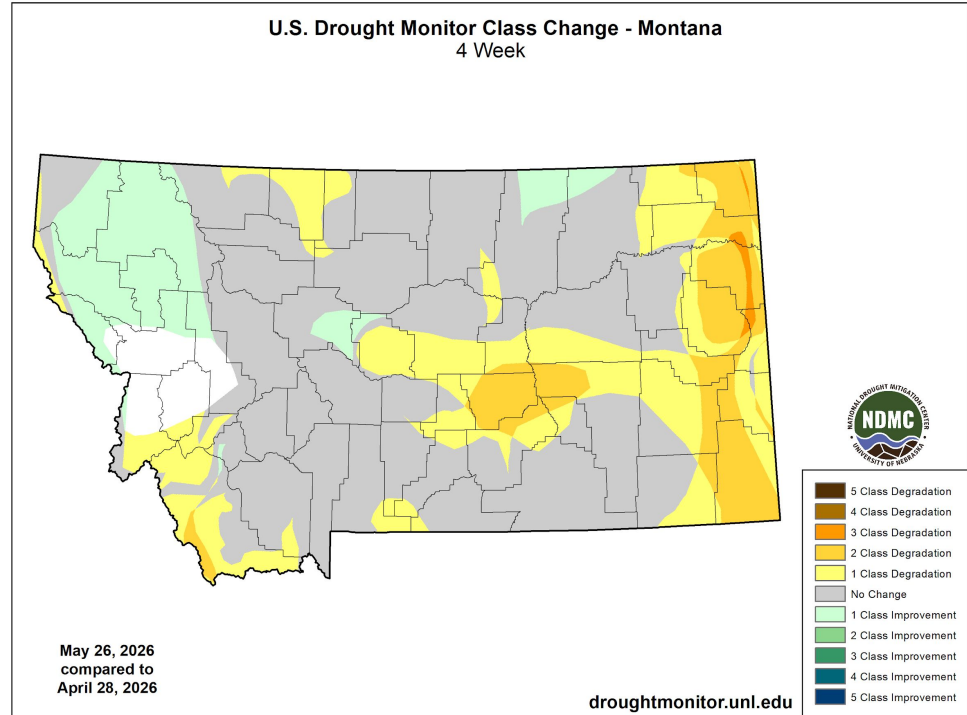
National Weather Service
Great Falls, Montana



Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link: [Montana 4-week Change Map](#)

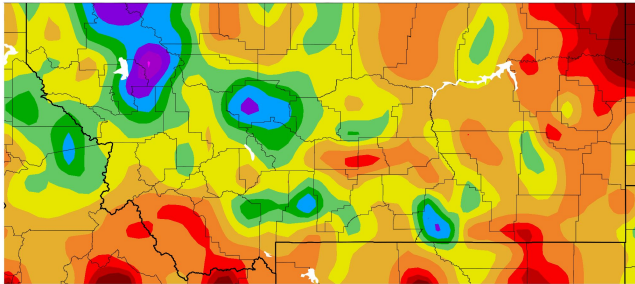
- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change
 - **Drought Worsened:** Across large portions of the State of Montana
 - **No Change:** Most of the state
 - **Drought Improved:** Portions of northwestern, central and northeastern MT





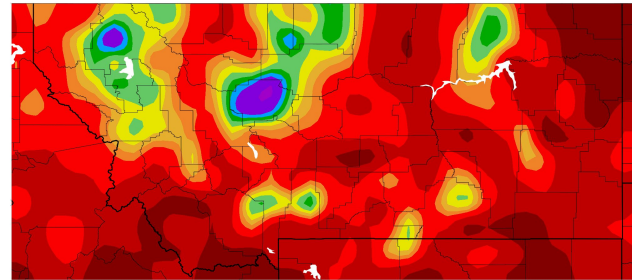
Precipitation

Precipitation (in)
5/2/2026 – 5/31/2026



0.1 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5
Generated 6/1/2026 using provisional data. ACIS Web Services

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
5/2/2026 – 5/31/2026



25 50 70 80 90 100 110 120 130 150 175
Generated 6/1/2026 using provisional data. ACIS Web Services

- **Precipitation (in):** During the past month, some mountainous areas received as much as 3.00” to 4.5” of precipitation with higher amounts at the highest elevations, while much of the rest of the state received less than 1.50” of moisture, and some areas received less than a trace.
- **Percent of Normal Precipitation (%):** Some of our higher elevations received above normal precipitation, while the precipitation for most of the state is well below normal.

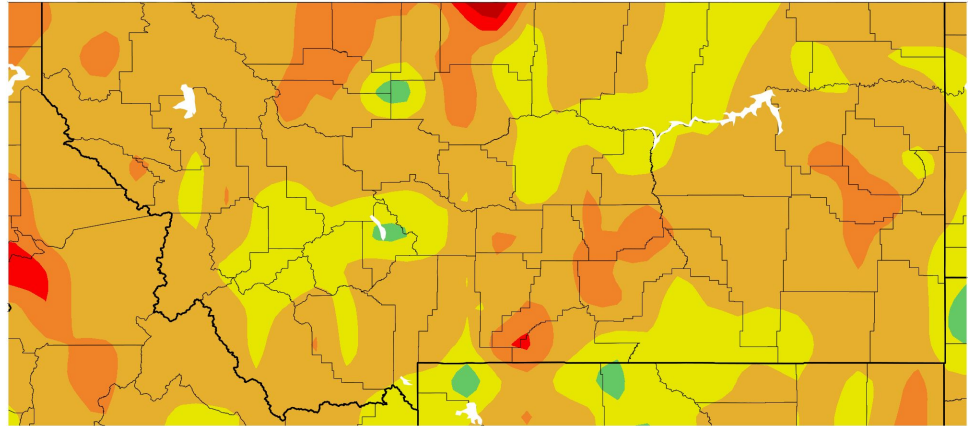




Temperature

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
5/2/2026 – 5/31/2026

- Portions of the state of MT recorded near normal temperatures, during the past month.
- Temperatures across most of the state were above normal to much above normal.
- Isolated areas of cooler than normal temperatures were recorded.



Generated 6/1/2026 using provisional data.

ACIS Web Services



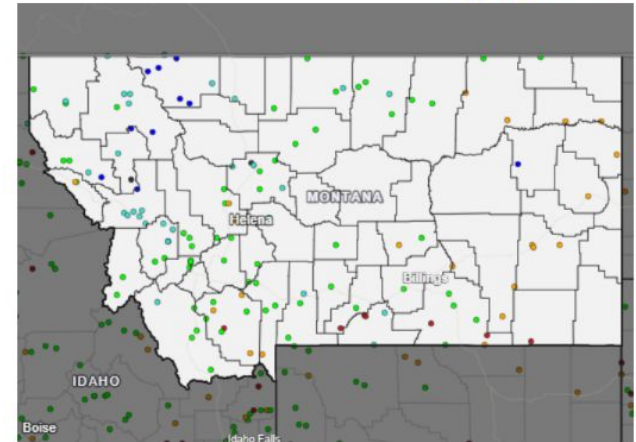


Hydrologic Conditions

Link: [1-Day Average Streamflow Compared to Historical](#)

- **Below Normal:** Watersheds across the state, are experiencing streamflow in the below normal to much below normal range.
- **Normal:** Many gage points are reporting streamflow within normal range.
- **Above Normal:** Most above normal gage points are located in northwestern Montana.

1-Day Average Streamflow Conditions



Streamflow Conditions



This map shows 1-day average streamflow conditions for yesterday compared to historical conditions for the same day of the year. Both 1-day and historical streamflow values are calculated as mean discharge (cubic feet per second) over a 24-hour period. Only streamgages with 30 or more years of data are included in this map. Click on a streamgage to view current data from the U.S. Geological Survey. These streamflow data are provisional and subject to revision.

Source(s): U.S. Geological Survey
Data Valid: 06/01/26

Drought.gov

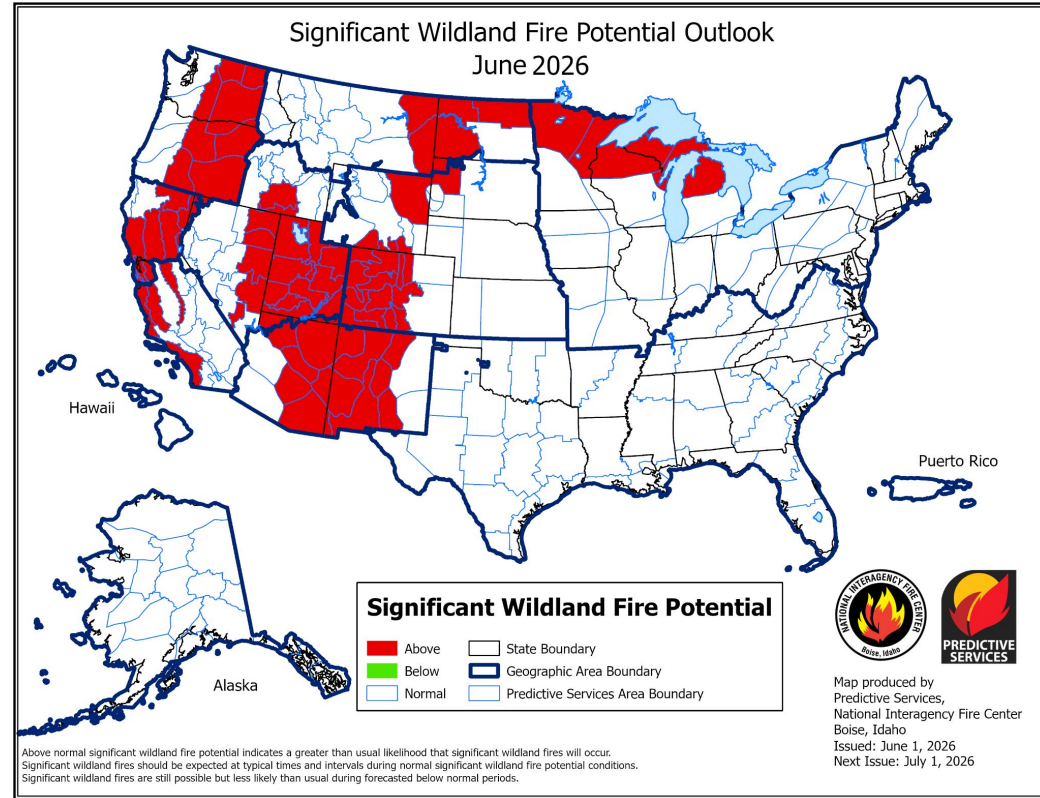




Fire Hazard Impacts

Link: [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center](#)

- For the month of June 2026, a large portion of eastern Montana is included in an area of above normal significant wildland fire potential conditions.
 - A greater than usual likelihood that significant wildland fires will occur.
- The remainder of the state is included in an area of normal significant wildland fire potential conditions.
 - Significant wildland fires should be expected at typical times and intervals.
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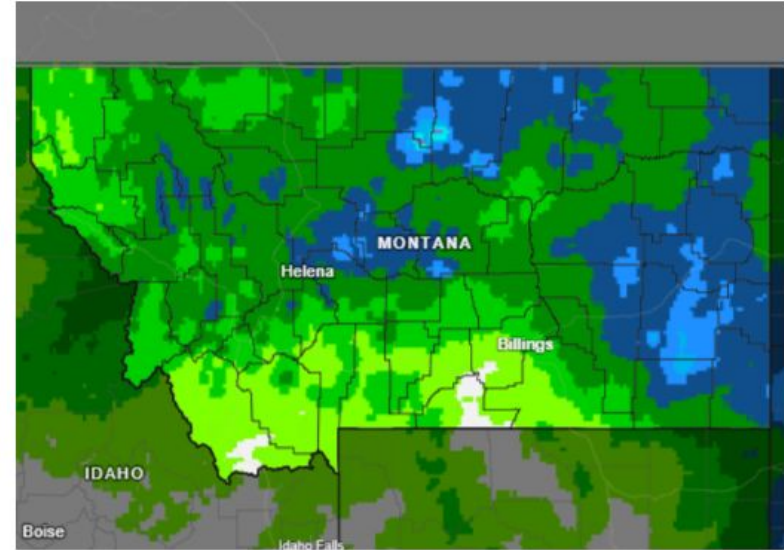


7-Day Precipitation Forecast

Link: drought.gov/states/montana

- Through, June 9, 2026, the 7-Day Liquid Precipitation Forecast, includes areas with as much as 1.0” to 1.5” of precipitation.
- The forecast for most of the state includes precipitation values ranging from a trace to 0.75”, for this 7-day period.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for June 2-9, 2026



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



This map shows the amount of liquid precipitation (in inches) expected to fall over the next 7 days, according to the National Weather Service.

Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center
Last Updated: 06/02/26

Drought.gov





8 to 14-Day Hydrologic Hazards Outlook

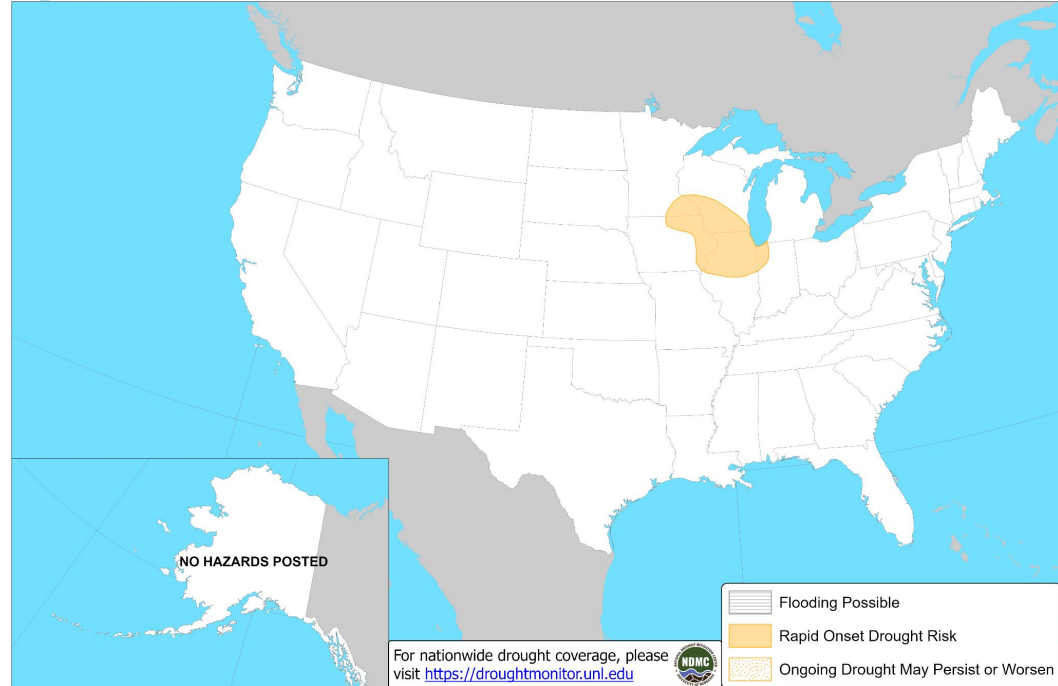
Link: [Climate Prediction Center \(CPC\) Home Page](#)

- As of this time, no significant flooding or rapid onset drought hazards are forecast to occur across The Treasure State during the period of, June 10 - 16, 2026.



Days 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook

Valid: June 10 - 16, 2026



Climate Prediction Center

Released: June 2, 2026 3:00 PM EDT

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www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

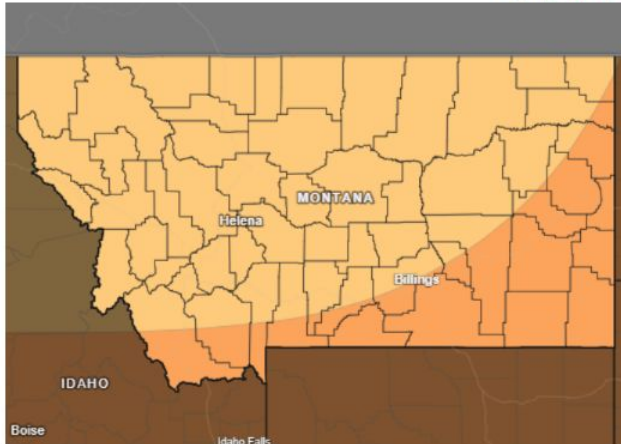
National Weather Service
Great Falls, Montana



8 to 14-Day Temperature and Precipitation Outlooks

Link: drought.gov/states/montana

8-14 Day Temperature Outlook for June 10-16, 2026



Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



■ Near-Normal Conditions

This map shows the probability (percent chance) of above-normal, near-normal, or below-normal temperature 8 to 14 days in the future.

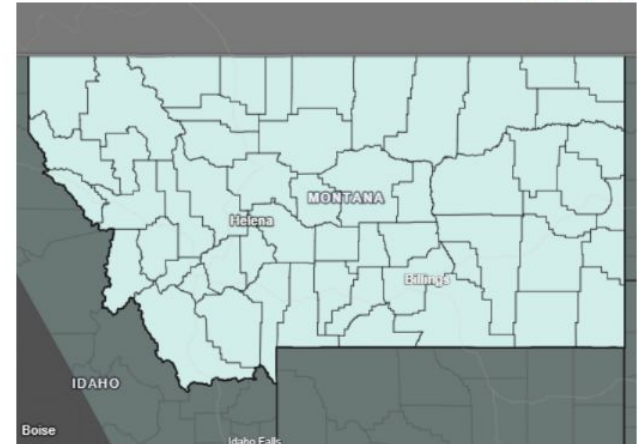
Source(s): Climate Prediction Center
Last Updated: 06/02/26

[Drought.gov](https://drought.gov)

The 8 to 14-Day Temperature Outlook shows a better chance for warmer than normal temperatures, statewide.

Across the state, the 8 to 14-Day Precipitation Outlook shows a 33% to 40% chance for below above normal precipitation.

8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook for June 10-16, 2026



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



■ Near-Normal Conditions

This map shows the probability (percent chance) of above-normal, near-normal, or below-normal precipitation 8 to 14 days in the future.

Source(s): Climate Prediction Center
Last Updated: 06/02/26

[Drought.gov](https://drought.gov)





Seasonal Temperature and Precipitation Outlooks

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC Homepage](#)

The Seasonal Temperature Outlook, shows a better chance for warmer than normal temperatures across The Treasure State.

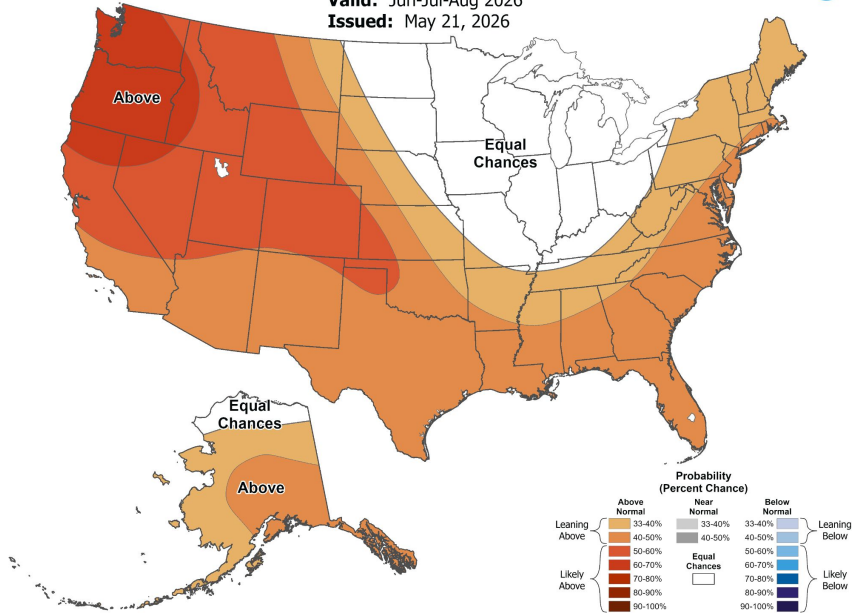
The Seasonal Precipitation Outlook shows better chances for below normal precipitation across northwestern MT, with equal chances for above or below normal precipitation, for the remainder of the state.



Seasonal Temperature Outlook



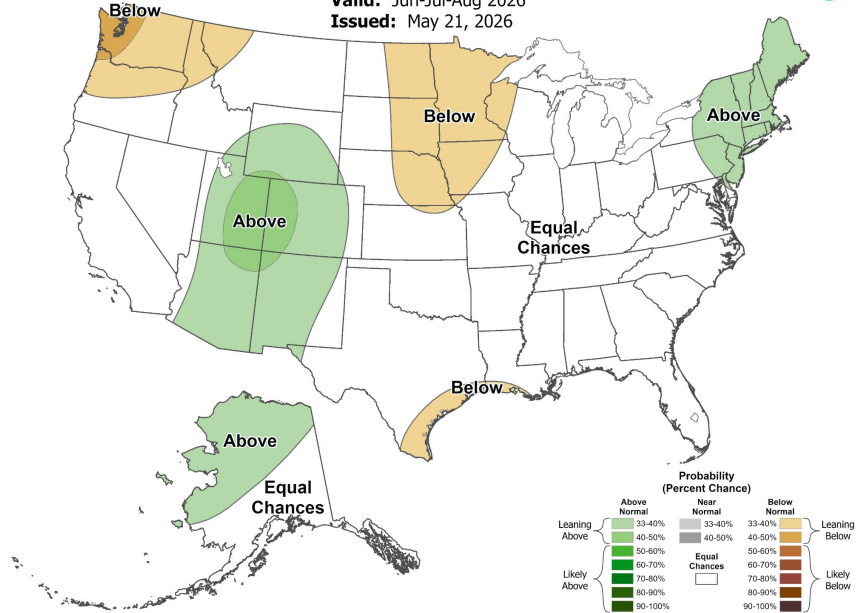
Valid: Jun-Jul-Aug 2026
Issued: May 21, 2026



Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



Valid: Jun-Jul-Aug 2026
Issued: May 21, 2026





Summary of Impacts

Links: Submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and View the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

Hydrologic Impacts

- Recent rainfall recharged some high elevation snowpack. A gentle melt will be favorable; however, flooding is possible if Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) is released, quickly.
- Although recent rainfall helps, drought conditions continue across much of the state.

Agricultural Impacts

- With portions of the state continuing in Severe (D2) to Extreme (D3) Drought Intensity Levels, impacts to crops and grasslands continue.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Fire prevention efforts continue important.

Other Impacts & Messaging

- Reservoir operations continue challenging as decisions are made regarding storage and release of water.

Mitigation Actions

- Flooding is possible at any time until the snow melts out of the mountains.
- Communication between partners proves valuable to mitigation efforts.

